

Childminder report

Inspection date: 10 June 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Inadequate
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

A child-centred, play-based approach is at the heart of this childminder's provision. Children form secure relationships with the kind and gentle childminder. They are happy and confident and enjoy their time at the setting. The childminder's warm and affectionate manner supports children to appreciate and share a friendly sense of humour. They enjoy making each other laugh. Children are confident to lead their own learning and make choices about what they want to play with or do. Children of different ages play well together and build friendships. For example, when playing with small world toys, older children help their younger friends to place the little play figures on the small see-saw to help it to balance. As the children make the small see-saw go up and down, they talk about and enjoy recreating their own experiences of visits to the park.

The childminder finds out from parents about their children's routines, interests and abilities before they start. She uses this information to plan for children's individual learning. The childminder gets to know children extremely well. The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour. She promotes good manners and sets clear boundaries and, as a result, children behave well.

Due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, the childminder has reduced the time parents are in the setting. She gives parents information about their child's day during a short discussion on collection. More in depth information about children's learning and progress is shared through regular telephone conversations.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder has made considerable improvements to her setting since the previous inspection. She has completed training to further secure her knowledge and understanding of her legal responsibilities. She has revised her documentation to ensure she is compliant with all safeguarding and welfare requirements.
- The childminder's observations and knowledge of children helps her to support them to make good progress in their learning. She is clear about what she wants children to learn. However, at times, her questioning does not provide sufficient opportunities to further challenge and extend the learning for the most able children.
- Children are developing a love of books. Younger children enjoy having cuddles as they listen to stories. Older children show delight as they follow the story instructions to count and find out more about dinosaur eggs.
- The childminder recognises the difficult time children have had during the COVID-19 pandemic. She plans well for new young children who are starting in her care. She recognises that they have spent limited time away from their

parents. She understands the behaviours children show may be due to how they are feeling in these uncertain times. As a result, she provides lots of support, empathy and reassurance, to help them to settle happily.

- Children develop good communication and language skills. The childminder models language well. She repeats words back so children can hear the correct pronunciation and extends children's short phrases into sentences. She encourages children to talk about things that interest them and listens patiently.
- The childminder works effectively with parents to seek additional professional help, as required. As a result, appropriate support is provided for younger children who need additional help in their communication development.
- Rules for keeping safe are clear for children. The childminder teaches them about the reasons such as to always sit down while eating and to tidy away toys after playing with them. This supports children to learn about safety, good manners and how to follow instructions. She gives children meaningful praise and this helps to boost their confidence and self-esteem.
- Children enjoy fresh air and physical exercise on their daily visits to the park and other local places of interest.
- The childminder introduces mathematics into a range of activities. Children become competent in their counting skills. They are beginning to learn the correct words to use when talking about the shape and size of objects.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents report positively about the childminder's caring and nurturing approach. They appreciate her flexibility and guidance to meet their family needs.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has appropriately updated her safeguarding policies and procedures. She has completed relevant training to secure her knowledge and understanding of her role and responsibilities. She is clear about her duty to promote children's safety and welfare. The childminder knows the action to take if she has a concern about a child, including if she is worried that children are being exposed to radical and extreme views. Her home is safe and secure and appropriate steps are taken to keep children safe when on outings. She strictly follows additional hygiene measures as a result of guidance issued due to COVID-19.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- develop questioning techniques to support more able children to increase the use of their problem-solving skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	117406
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	10129382
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	14 October 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in the St Budeaux area of Plymouth, Devon. She offers care every weekday, all year round, except public holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Linda Williamson

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in the evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector and the childminder completed a learning walk together to allow the childminder to explain how she organises the early years provision for the children in her care.
- The inspector observed activities in the indoor learning environment where children play.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed a focus activity and evaluated this with the childminder.
- A sample of documentation was viewed by the inspector, including evidence of the childminder's suitability and children's records.
- The inspector spoke with parents by telephone, and took account of their views.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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